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ABSTRACT

This text is designed to enable parents to become powerful advocates for their gifted children at school and at home. Chapters 1 through 5 focus on becoming an advocate at home. Chapter 1 discusses three broad characteristics of giftedness, the difference between bright and gifted children, and other dimensions of giftedness. Chapter 2 provides a checklist of questions designed to help parents identify their child's unique abilities, talents, and learning styles, as well as the best way to meet individual learning needs. The following chapter describes strategies that parents can use to help their child cope with friendships, family, and feelings of anxiety and perfectionism. Chapters 4 and 5 discuss the importance of discipline and of providing a haven for learning in and around your home. Chapters 6 through 9 focus on advocacy at school and describe how gifted children are identified, educational programs for gifted students, arranging conferences with the teacher, and searching out other educational options. Chapters 10 through 12 focus on community advocacy and address participating in parent organizations, taking your case to the school board and to the state, and taking care of yourself. (Contains 68 references.) (CR)